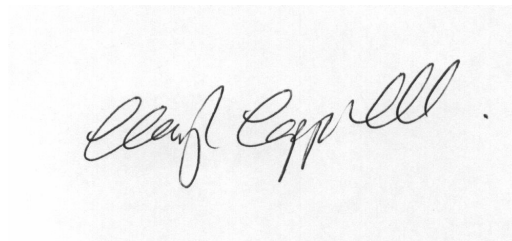


# COUNCIL

**7.30pm WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2009  
AT HAVERING TOWN HALL  
MAIN ROAD, ROMFORD**

**Members of the Council of the London Borough of Havering are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council at the time and place indicated for the transaction of the following business**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Buckmaster', is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

**Chief Executive**

**For information about the meeting please contact:  
Ian Buckmaster (01708) 432431  
[ian.buckmaster@havering.gov.uk](mailto:ian.buckmaster@havering.gov.uk)**

## **NOTES ABOUT THE MEETING**

### **1. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**The Council is committed to protecting the health and safety of everyone who attends its meetings.**

**At the beginning of the meeting, there will be an announcement about what you should do if there is an emergency during its course. For your own safety and that of others at the meeting, please comply with any instructions given to you about evacuation of the building, or any other safety related matters.**

### **2. MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES**

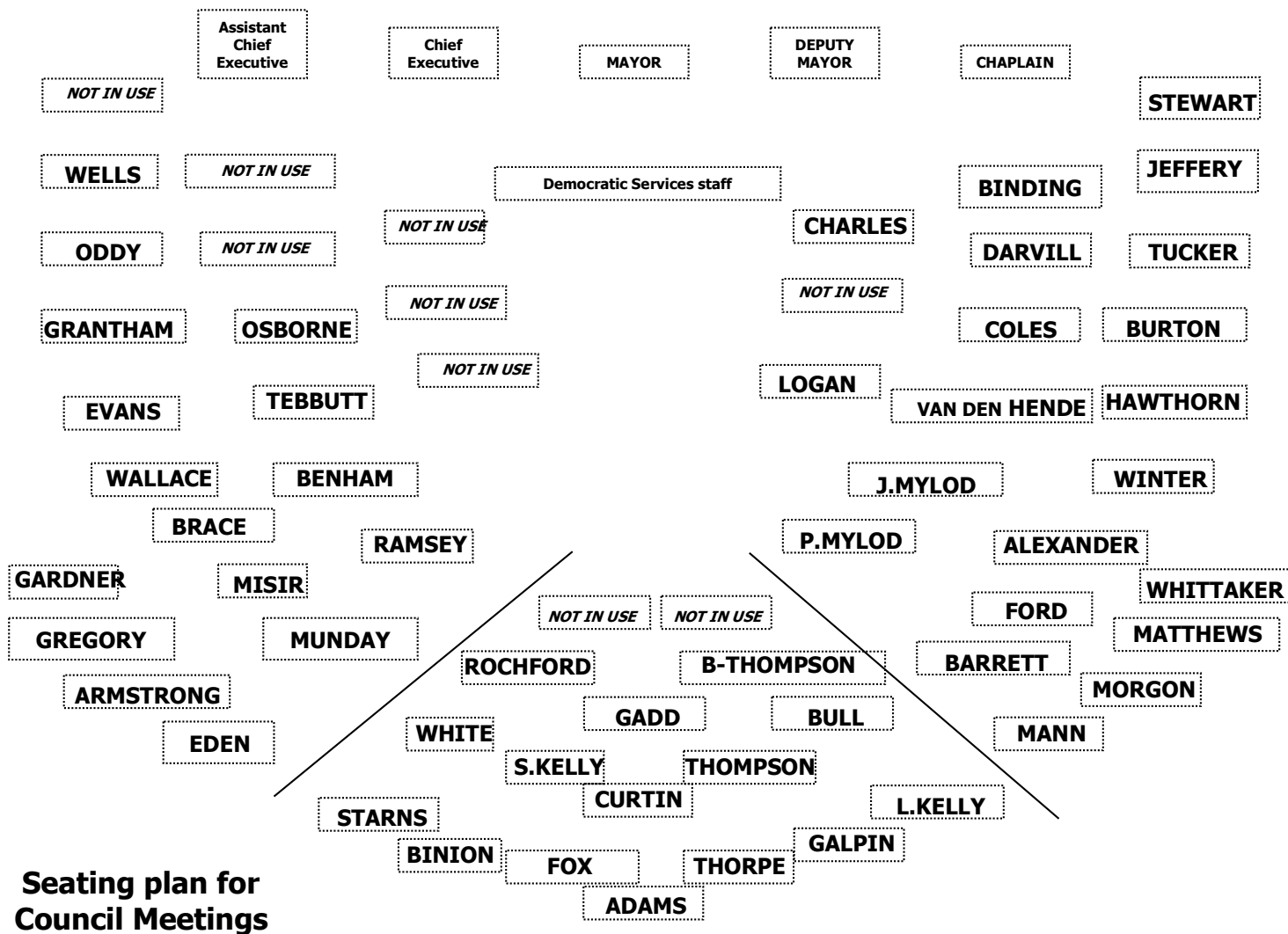
Although mobile phones, pagers and other such devices are an essential part of many people's lives, their use during a meeting of the Council can be disruptive and a nuisance. Everyone attending is asked therefore to ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off completely.

### **3. CONDUCT AT THE MEETING**

**Although members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council, they have no right to speak at them. Seating for the public is, however, limited and the Council cannot guarantee that everyone who wants to be present in the public areas of the Council Chamber can be accommodated. When it is known in advance that there is likely to be particular public interest in an item the Council will endeavour to provide an overspill room in which, by use of television links, members of the public will be able to see and hear most of the proceedings.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE MAYOR MAY REQUIRE ANYONE WHO ACTS IN A DISRUPTIVE MANNER TO LEAVE THE MEETING AND THAT THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED IF NECESSARY WHILE THAT IS ARRANGED.**

If you need to leave the meeting before its end, please remember that others present have the right to listen to the proceedings without disruption. Please leave quietly and do not engage others in conversation until you have left the Council Chamber.



# INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

## Commencement of Meeting

As an aid to Members, a single ring of the division bell will sound 5 minutes before the meeting is due to begin, followed by a double ring at 2 minutes before, at which time Members are asked please to take their seats for the commencement of the meeting.

## Control of microphones

Members are reminded that, at Council meetings, the microphones are controlled centrally under the direction of the Mayor. Consequently, Members do not need to press the **MIC ON** button in order to speak, nor to turn off the microphone when they have finished.

The Mayor would find it helpful, however if Members would press the **MIC ON** button to indicate that they wish:

- to speak in the course of debate on any motion (including movers and seconders)
- to rise to a point of order, of information or in personal explanation

## Voting

When the Mayor calls a division, the division bell will sound briefly. In order to ensure that votes are recorded correctly, Members are asked to wait until the division bell has finished ringing before pressing the appropriate voting button.

Members are, of course, free to change their vote as they choose at any time until the Mayor directs that the votes be counted. Once a count has been called, however, no further change is possible. In the event that a Member's vote appears not to have been recorded, the clerks should be informed immediately, before the result is declared, so that account can be taken of the vote.

**Council, 4 February 2009**

**AGENDA**

**1 PRAYERS**

2 To receive apologies for absence (if any)

**3 MINUTES**

To sign as a true record the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10 December 2008

**4 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting.

*Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.*

**5 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (if any)**

**6 PETITIONS**

Councillors Fred Osborne and Mark Logan have each given notice of an intention to present a petition.

**Council, 4 February 2009****REPORT FOR  
CONSIDERATION**

**NOTE: The deadline for any amendment is midnight, Monday 2 February 2009**

**7 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

To consider a report of the Governance Committee

**MEMBERS'  
QUESTIONS****8 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

Questions are listed in the agenda by order of receipt

**MOTIONS  
FOR DEBATE****9 HOUSING – ADDITIONAL SERVICE CHARGE FOR A MOBILE AND FIXED CCTV SERVICE****Motion on behalf of the Labour Group**

That this Council acknowledges the considerable concern of residents at the imposition of an additional service charge of £1.20 per week to Council Tenants for a mobile and fixed CCTV service from 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008 and in view of those concerns urges the Cabinet to withdraw the charge from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009 and merge the service within the Council's general CCTV service.

## **Council, 4 February 2009**

### **9A Amendment by the Administration**

**Amend to read:**

This Council supports the decision of Cabinet in its review of charges for the CCTV service, which was introduced at the request of tenants in response to their concern about the anti-social behaviour on housing estates.

## **10 AIR TRANSPORT - FLIGHT INCREASES AT LONDON CITY AIRPORT**

### **Motion on behalf of the Labour Group**

This Council condemns the Administration's dereliction of its representative duty: -

- (a) In not informing or consulting Council Members or local residents about the significant increases in flights proposed from the London City Airport ; and
- (b) In its failure to consult with or inform local residents, or provide any response to the flight path changes proposed by the National Air Traffic Service(NATS), which will together with the increase in flights will have a substantial and detrimental environmental impact particularly in respect of noise and air pollution in many parts of the Borough.

## **11 USE OF PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

### **Motion on behalf of the Independent Local Residents' Group**

This Council deprecates the use of procedural motions in ways that could be perceived as seeking to stifle legitimate debate

### **11A Amendment by the Administration**

**Amend to read:**

This Council recognises the need to refer appropriate motions to Overview & Scrutiny Committee for detailed examination by way of procedural motions.

## **12 OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

### **Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group**

This Council recognises the importance of scrutiny committees in reviewing policies and actions of the Council. In order to fulfil the role effectively, it is crucial that scrutiny

**Council, 4 February 2009**

committees remain independent of the Executive of the Council. As such, this Council resolves that the scrutiny process should adopt the following measures:

- a) Chairmanship of the scrutiny committees should better reflect the composition of the whole Council and draw on the ability and experience of all members.
- b) Scrutiny members, who also come from the same party as the Executive, should be fully free to express opinion of policy and decisions without being subject to party whip.
- c) When and where appropriate, at the discretion of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, to create ad hoc specialist "select committees", drawing on the wide scope of skills and experience of all members, to deal with specific items.

**12A Amendment by the Administration**

**Amend** by deleting all after the end of the first sentence.

**Note – the motion will then read:**

This Council recognises the importance of scrutiny committees in reviewing policies and actions of the Council. In order to fulfil the role effectively, it is crucial that scrutiny committees remain independent of the Executive of the Council.

**13 HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – Vice-Chairman****Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group**

That Councillor Barbara Matthews be appointed to the vacant position of Vice Chairman of the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee.





**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING  
Havering Town Hall, Romford  
10 December 2008 (7.30pm – 9:05pm)**

**Present:** The Mayor (Councillor John Clark) in the Chair

Councillors Gary Adams, June Alexander, Michael Armstrong, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Tom Binding, Sandra Binion, Jeff Brace, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Dennis Bull, David Charles, Jonathan Coles, Keith Darvill, Ted Eden, Roger Evans, Gillian Ford, Chris Fox, Mark Gadd, Georgina Galpin, Peter Gardner, David Grantham, Kevin Gregory\*, Linda Hawthorn, Coral Jeffery, Lesley Kelly, Steven Kelly, Pam Light, Mark Logan, Andrew Mann, Barbara Matthews, Robby Misir, Eric Munday, John Mylod, Pat Mylod, Barry Oddy, Fred Osborne, Roger Ramsey, Paul Rochford, Geoff Starns, Mark Stewart, Barry Tebbutt, Frederick Thompson, Lynden Thorpe, Jeffrey Tucker, Linda Van den Hende, Melvin Wallace, Keith Wells, Steve Whittaker\* and Mike Winter

\* For part of the meeting

10 guests, members of public and press also attended.

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Michael Deon Burton, Andrew Curtin, Ray Morgon and Michael White; and for the late attendance of Councillor Kevin Gregory

The Mayor advised Members and the public of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the Town Hall becoming necessary.

The Reverend Bob Love, of the Church of St John & St Matthew, South Hornchurch, opened the meeting with prayers.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

**55 MINUTES (Agenda Item 3)**

It was **RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 22 October 2008 be signed as a true record.**

56 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)**

No Member declared an interest in any matter before the meeting.

57 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR (Agenda Item 5)**

The Mayor's Announcements are attached as **Appendix 1 to these minutes.**

58 **ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 5)**

On behalf of the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader (Councillor Steven Kelly) reminded all Members that they had corporate parenting obligations to children looked after by the Council and urged them to attend a briefing on child protection procedures that, in the light of recent highly-publicised tragedies elsewhere, had been arranged for 6.30pm on Wednesday, 17 December 2008.

59 **PETITIONS (Agenda Item 6)**

Under paragraph 24 of the Council Procedure Rules, a petition was presented to the Mayor by Councillor Keith Darvill from residents of the Heaton Avenue and Briar Road Estate area protesting at unjust charges levied on them for CCTV etc from 1<sup>st</sup> August.

It was noted that the petition would be passed to the appropriate Head of Service for attention or report to members.

60 **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE (Agenda Item 7)**

The Chief Executive reported on behalf of the Leader of the Council upon the circumstances in which a decision by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Commerce had been exempted from the call-in (requisition) procedure.

The report was considered without debate or division and it was –

**RESOLVED:**

**That the report be noted.**

61 **CONTRIBUTION TO THE LONDON BOROUGH GRANTS SCHEME – 2009/10 BUDGET (Agenda Item 8)**

The Council was reminded that there was a requirement to contribute to the London Boroughs Grants Scheme and now noted that the London Boroughs Leaders' Committee had approved a Grants budget requiring a reduction of 0.07% in the overall level of the boroughs contributions.

The proposed contribution from Havering had decreased by £1,296 compared with 2008/09, after taking into account population changes affecting the allocation basis.

The report was considered without debate or division and it was –

**RESOLVED:**

1. **That the proposed total budget of £30,118,000 for the London Boroughs Grants Committee for 2009/10 be agreed.**
2. **That the Council's proposed contribution of £795,957 to the London Boroughs Grants Committee for 2009/10 be agreed.**

62 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (Agenda Item 9)**

Twenty four questions were listed to be asked under the Council Procedure Rules. The questions and answers, together with a summary of the supplementary answers given to those answered orally, are set out in **Appendix 2 to these minutes**.

63 **GRAFFITI REMOVAL (Agenda Item 10)**

**Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group**

This Council calls upon the Administration to be more proactive in dealing with the removal of graffiti from its own property and non-council owned property, by using the legislative powers at its disposal to demonstrate to Havering residents its commitment to improving their quality of life.

A procedural motion, that the matter be referred to the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee, was agreed without debate or division and it was -

**RESOLVED to:**

**Refer the motion to the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration.**

**64 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: SCOPE OF 'OUT OF HOURS' SERVICE (Agenda Item 11)**

**Motion on behalf of the Rainham Residents' Group**

This Council requests the Cabinet to agree that, owing to the ongoing problem of offensive odours often encountered during evenings or weekend, the 'Out of Hours' Environmental Health Service, which currently covers noise issues, be extended to include smell nuisance; and that further contact phone numbers will be made available to the public, who encounter difficulties reporting incidents.

A procedural motion, that the matter be referred to the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee, was agreed without debate or division and it was -

**RESOLVED to:**

**Refer the motion to the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration.**

**65 GHURKHA EX-SERVICEMEN – EQUAL RIGHTS (Agenda Item 12)**

**Motion on behalf of the Administration**

That this Council supports the LGA campaign for equal citizenship and pension rights for Ghurkha ex-servicemen.

Following debate, the motion was subject to a vote that was carried unanimously and it was -

**RESOLVED:**

**That this Council supports the LGA\* campaign for equal citizenship and pension rights for Ghurkha ex-servicemen.**

**Note** – the Members present and voting for the motion were: Councillors Gary Adams, June Alexander, Michael Armstrong, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Tom Binding, Sandra Binion, Jeff Brace, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Dennis Bull, David Charles, John Clark, Jonathan Coles, Keith Darvill, Ted Eden, Roger Evans,

---

\* Local Government Association

Gillian Ford, Chris Fox, Mark Gadd, Georgina Galpin, Peter Gardner, David Grantham, Kevin Gregory, Linda Hawthorn, Coral Jeffery, Lesley Kelly, Steven Kelly, Pam Light, Mark Logan, Andrew Mann, Barbara Matthews, Robby Misir, Eric Munday, John Mylod, Pat Mylod, Barry Oddy, Fred Osborne, Roger Ramsey, Paul Rochford, Geoff Starns, Mark Stewart, Barry Tebbutt, Frederick Thompson, Lynden Thorpe, Jeffrey Tucker, Linda Van den Hende, Melvin Wallace, Keith Wells and Mike Winter

**66 SEASON'S GREETINGS**

At the conclusion of the debate referred to in the preceding minute, the Council joined the Deputy Leader of the Council in expressing best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all British Service personnel serving in Afghanistan, Iraq and other places.

The Mayor closed the meeting by wishing all Members and staff a Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year.

## **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

First, I would like to say congratulations to everyone involved in organising the successful festive events that are being held throughout the borough.

It was refreshing to see that despite the 'credit crunch' our residents are still keen to enjoy the many activities the borough provides.

The thousands of people who attended the switching on of the Christmas lights and fireworks display at Romford Town Centre are testament to this.

The Council's Christmas Party for Older People at Forest Row Centre is sure to be another great event. I hope Members will join me there on Friday afternoon, and help our 140 guests enjoy their special day.

The Safe Drive Stay Alive show, organised by our Road Safety team and supported by the emergency services, left our teenagers in no doubt about the consequences of reckless driving. The hard hitting message is a timely reminder for the thousands of students who attended the Queen's Theatre.

I would also like to highlight the sterling work of the junior neighbourhood wardens. The youngsters, some as young as seven, are helping to keep their communities clean and safe, as part of a scheme organised by Homes in Havering.

We should take great pride in our young people. I recently accompanied Air Commodore Brian Batt, Deputy Lieutenant for Havering, on a tour and inspection of our local cadets (The Army Cadet Force 48 Squadron; The Royal Logistic Corps Air Training Corps No 452 Hornchurch Squadron, and The Sea Cadet Corps TS Hurricane). The enthusiasm of the cadets in performing their duties and drills was something to behold.

Finally I would like to ask you to cast your vote and help Harrow Lodge Park or Central Park win £400,000 in the Mayor of London's Help a London Park scheme. Information on how to vote for the park of your choice is on the Council's website.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### 1 Crime statistics – accuracy

#### To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Standards & Electoral Services (Councillor Peter Gardner)

By Councillor John Mylod:

In light of the recent publicity around inaccuracies in police crime figures, specifically for serious crimes, can we be assured that the figures in respect of Havering are accurate and reflect the true position of the Borough?

ANSWER

It is considered that the Member can continue to have confidence in the figures recorded. A number of reviews have been conducted both by police staff of Havering Borough Police, and by the Metropolitan Police Performance Information Bureau on the crimes recorded in Havering in relation to the recent changes to the categorisation of crime, and the figures are considered valid. Further there are four levels of random sampling carried out by the Metropolitan Police to ensure the accuracy of the data.

#### Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Member was advised that the Council accepted the accuracy of the Police's monitoring of the statistics.

### 2 Parking charges – Hornchurch car parks

#### To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon (in the absence of the questioner, this question was asked by the Group Leader):

Since the introduction of out-of-town car parking charges and in respect of Hornchurch car parks, would the Cabinet member confirm the following as at 31st October 2008:

- a) Total income received?
- b) Total revenue expenditure?
- c) Total capital expenditure?

ANSWER

For Hornchurch car parks

- a) Income received from 1 April 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008 = £116,069.90
- b) Total Revenue expenditure = £100,276

**c) Total Capital expenditure for 19 pay and display machines in Hornchurch = £75,548.37**

Supplementary question and answer

The Cabinet Member was agreed to provide a similar breakdown of figures for all Town Centre car parks (outside Central Romford) to Councillor Barbara Matthews.

**3 Hornchurch car parks – cleaning**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Ray Morgon (in the absence of the questioner, this question was asked by the Group Leader):

Would the Cabinet member confirm the cleaning regime for each Hornchurch Town car park and how and who monitors this activity?

**ANSWER**

The bins are emptied twice per week. Litter picking is carried out fortnightly and there is a mechanical sweep fortnightly. These functions are undertaken by StreetCare. In addition car park officers monitor the car parks and will react to any problems identified.

Close liaison between StreetCare's cleaning service and the Car Parks Manager is maintained at all times

Supplementary question and answer

The Cabinet Member was agreed to provide a similar breakdown of cleansing arrangements would be made available for all Town Centre car parks (outside Central Romford) to Councillor Andy Mann.

**4 Knife Crimes – incidents reported**

**To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Standards & Electoral Services (Councillor Peter Gardner)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

Would the Cabinet member state how many incidents of knife crime (including murder, assault, etc) have been reported to the Police in each of the last 3 years in Havering Park Ward, Mawneys Ward and the Borough as a whole.

**ANSWER**

Over the three years there has been no significant increase in incidents in the Borough.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>
Nov 2005 to Oct 2006	160



Nov 2006 to Oct 2007	168
Nov 2007 to Oct 2008	161
Total	489

The figures below show the offences in Havering Park and Mawneys Wards as a percentage of all Havering for the three years under review.

Year	Havering Park	HP Percentage	Mawneys	Mawneys Percentage
Nov 2005/Oct 2006	8	5.0%	6	3.8%
Nov 2006/Oct 2007	7	4.2%	5	3.0%
Nov 2007/Oct 2008	4	2.5%	5	3.1%
Total	19	3.9%	16	3.3%

The average percentage of incidents in each ward in the Borough is 5.6%.

Supplementary question and answer

The Cabinet Member was agreed to provide a similar breakdown of figures for all Wards in the Borough to Councillor Andy Mann.

5 **Advertising income**

**To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

Would the Cabinet member state how much income has been generated to date, and projected to the year end, from advertising on Council assets (as set against the additional £500,000 income target included in the 2008/09 budget)?

**ANSWER**

The contracts are in the process of being completed and whilst we anticipate that in 2009/10 the income budget will be met for the current year we are anticipating a £350k shortfall currently. This is being reflected in the revenue monitor.

Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member confirmed that he remained confident that the original budget projection was realistic in a full year, although the current economic climate could have an impact on advertising activity.

**6 Local Democracy Week****To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

Would the Cabinet member explain why Local Democracy Week passed by with little Council involvement and what is planned for the future?

ANSWER

Local Democracy Week did not go unmarked by the Council this year. In fact there were three linked initiatives:

- a well-attended 'Meet the Cabinet' session in the marketplace;
- a community engagement session at the Brewery, asking people to tell us what they like and dislike about their neighbourhoods, by sticking notes on a giant aerial shot of the borough
- and a feature in Living on how people can become involved in local decision-making by becoming a councillor, governor or magistrate, or by simply attending area committee meetings.

A decision will be made on future activity nearer the time of the 2009 Local Democracy Week, but strengthening the local community and how its role in local decision-making might be better defined and incorporated into the process is an important, and ongoing part of the Council's Better Together campaign.

**Supplementary question and answer**

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member indicated that the Member Champion for Younger Persons would happily respond to a question at the next meeting on the detail of the Council's activities to promote participation in democracy by young people.

**7 Disposal of recyclable refuse****To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

In view of the downturn in the market for recycled materials, would the Cabinet member confirm what measures are in place to avoid collected recyclable materials being diverted into landfill?

ANSWER

Collected recyclables are delivered to the Shanks Frog Island facility by our waste collection contractor.

Under the East London Waste Authority (ELWA) contract, Shanks are responsible for identifying markets for the collected materials and the Shanks performance in respect of recycling is closely monitored.

The vast majority of ELWAs recyclables are sent to UK based companies so when the downturn in the export market occurred and others, who had previously exported recyclables, sought UK markets, Shanks already had established outlets for their products and therefore an advantage.

To date Shanks have not had to landfill any materials that would otherwise have gone to re processors. We do however need to ensure that the materials collected for recycling are of a high quality and do all we can to reduce contamination.

This continues to be a focus of our communications campaigns.

#### Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, assurance was given that the new textiles and clothing recycling service was being extended; and that recycling of cardboard etc continued, with use of landfill continuing to be avoided for those commodities.

### 8 Use of investigatory powers

#### To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)

By Councillor John Mylod:

It has been widely reported in the press that some councils are using authority derived from the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) to undertake surveillance on residents for alleged minor infractions, such as putting out bins on the wrong day and checking applications for school admissions. Would the Cabinet member give an assurance that these powers have not, and will not, be used in Havering for such purposes?

ANSWER

I can assure the member that RIPA has not been used for the matters he mentions and it is highly unlikely the powers would be so used in the future.

### 9 "Living" magazine – distribution costs

#### To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

Would the Cabinet member state what the distribution costs are for the fortnightly "Living" newspaper in respect of:

- a) 2008/09 projected annual cost?
- b) Cost per fortnightly issue?

ANSWER

The projected annual distribution cost is commercially sensitive, as we are currently in the process of re-tendering the delivery contract for Living, to ensure both the quality of the service and that it provides value for money. Therefore I am not prepared to disclose any figures at this time, but once the decision has been

made, the information you seek will be made available to you in confidence. I trust this will be acceptable to you.

Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member gave assurance that the delivery of *Living* was monitored by an organisation engaged for that purpose, by the delivery contractor and by staff (through reports and complaints from the public about non-delivery).

**10 Consultation about Ward-specific issues**

**To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)**

By Councillor Ray Morgon (in the absence of the questioner, this question was asked by the Group Leader):

Will this Administration ensure that all decisions relating to ward specific issues are fully discussed with the relevant ward councillors and that they are involved in meaningful consultation with the relevant Cabinet member?

ANSWER

In the absence of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Steven Kelly replied.

This Administration is always prepared for a Ward Councillor to be involved in discussions of plans within their Ward – where practicable. However, the Member will be aware from his time as a Member of Cabinet that, due to the volume of improvements coming through this Administration, this is not always possible. So the Administration will not give the specific commitment this question seeks.

**11 Funds invested in Icelandic Banks**

**To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

Would the Cabinet member provide an update on the recovery of the £12.5million invested in the Icelandic banks of Heritable and Landsbanki?

ANSWER

Officers continue to work with the LGA, London councils and the Treasury to recover the funds. Various meetings are taking place including creditor meetings.

In the case of the Iceland registered banks, Landsbanki, the Icelandic 'Resolution Committees' for this bank held meetings for creditors in Reykjavik on 13 and 14 November. These meeting were by invitation only, and two experienced senior officers, nominated by the local authority community, one from Kent County Council and one from the London Borough of Barnet, attended to represent the local government creditors. Legal support from UK and Icelandic lawyers was provided.

These meetings were confidential. The key points that we have gleaned from the Resolution Committee meetings and from discussions with lawyers are that:

- The Icelandic law that governs how the Resolution Committees operate, and the rights of different types of creditor, differs significantly from its UK equivalent. The LGA are trying to establish whether or not this will operate to local authorities' benefit.
- Because the Icelandic banks set up new companies to deal with their domestic banking business, we as a local authority are checking whether their deposits are now held by the 'new' bank or the 'old' bank. This will be important in determining the outcome. Confirmation is expected shortly and should certainly be provided by 14<sup>th</sup> December.
- It is unlikely that reliable information about the value of assets and liabilities in the 'old' banks will be available until Spring 2009. This is because complex valuations have to be undertaken of what has been transferred into the 'new' banks.

These complexities mean that it will be some time before the prospects for recovery from these banks can be reliably ascertained. Links have been made now with other creditors and further creditor meetings are due to take place.

In the case of the UK-registered banks, Heritable Bank plc (Heritable) – a conference has been held. The Administrator's formal proposals to creditors are being followed by a statutory creditors' meeting on 9 December. Authorities to act as proxies have been agreed. Heritable operated four main businesses and the Administrator will either continue to run those businesses so as to realize the maximum benefit for creditors or sell the businesses if a satisfactory price can be obtained. It is also possible that Heritable creditors may be able to derive some benefit from a guarantee that we understand to have been given by the parent company, Landsbanki, to depositors.

A Steering Committee to co-ordinate all recovery action for the benefit of local authority creditors has been formed. Three subcommittees have also been established to co-ordinate work on each of the two UK based banks, and on the Iceland based banks. Representation on the UK Administrators' and the Icelandic Resolution Committees' creditor groups has been drawn from these committees.

The London authorities continue to meet as a group.

Officers have continued to hold discussions with Government, Local Government Organisations and Audit Commission officials. The continuing uncertainty on what might be recovered gives real difficulty to local authorities. We are seeking to ensure that Government fully understands the issues and provides meaningful support.

The Government have announced that Local authorities will not need to address the position from an accounting perspective until 2010/11 when things will be clearer, that is if any losses have materialised.

#### Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member stressed that present indications were that it was unlikely that all of the invested funds would be lost.

Heritable's assets matched its liabilities at the time of entering into administration and the extent of the return to investors would depend upon the realisation of those assets, which included a very substantial mortgage (based on commercial and domestic property securities) book and loan books. There were likely to be substantial recoveries, and the administrators expected that there would be a substantial dividend.

The Landsbanki position was less certain but the possibilities were, from the information available, that there would also be a recovery.

The Council would develop its strategies as matters progressed to ensure that there was no impact on the Council Tax payer.

**12 CCTV car – issue of penalty charge notices**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

Would the Cabinet member state how many PCN's the CCTV car has issued this municipal year to date and how much income the CCTV cars produced in the 2007/ 08 municipal year?

ANSWER

The total number of PCNs issued by the CCTV car this municipal year to 23 November is 14,240.

The income produced by the CCTV car for the municipal year 2007/08 was £875,702.43.

**13 CCTV car and new parking charges – reasons for introduction**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

Would the Cabinet member responsible for Parking supply me with a copy of the letters from Ken Livingstone and the Government forcing Havering Council to introduce new parking charges and the introduction of the CCTV smart Car?

ANSWER

There are no letters from Ken Livingstone or the Government forcing Havering Council to introduce new parking charges or introduce the CCTV car.

Camera enforcement was first mooted in a 2004 Cabinet report on the future of the Council's Parking operations presented by the then Head of Environmental Management and Regulation. That report noted as a forthcoming issue the enforcement of traffic offences by camera.

In light of the aforementioned the issue of camera enforcement was informally explored further in 2006. However, the use of CCTV enforcement in London for

parking and moving traffic contraventions and offences is regulated by London Councils and their approval is required prior to any Council deploying CCTV for the purposes of parking and moving traffic enforcement. However, London Councils only consider applications from Council's once a Council has Member approval on the principle of CCTV enforcement.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006 Member approval was sought via a Form A under the decision heading *"To give approval to the principle of CCTV parking and moving traffic offence enforcement in the Borough"*. The Form A was authorised by the then Lead Member for StreetCare and Parking.

Subsequent to the then Lead Member's approval an application to London Councils was made and was successful.

Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member was unable to comment on a leaflet circulated in the Collier Row area that suggested the charges had been introduced at the behest of Ken Livingstone or the Government without having seen the leaflet in question.

14 **School uniform grants**

**To the Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services (Councillor Geoff Starns)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

Would the Cabinet member state how many applications per school, have been made for school uniform grants since August 2008 and how many grants have been awarded?

**ANSWER**

Members will be aware that from April 2007 the policy for school uniform grants changed to one of approval in "exceptional circumstances" only. The definition of "Exceptional circumstances" is clearly set out in the policy.

Since August 2008 four uniform grant applications have been submitted and all four approved under the new policy. The four applications were for pupils at:

Chafford School - two pupils

Marshalls Park School - one pupil

Royal Liberty School - one pupil

Parents enquiring over the telephone and in writing are advised of the new policy.

Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member agreed that, in the light of the current economic position, the impact of the policy would be reviewed but he understood that anecdotal evidence did not suggest that there were difficulties as a result of it.

15 **Homes in Havering - overspend****To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

If the investigation into Homes in Havering's 2.2 million pounds overspend reveals foul play, will this Council request a police investigation, yes or no?

ANSWER

The Council is currently conducting a thorough review of Homes in Havering's accounts. Deloitte's Accountants have been commissioned to assist in this matter. The Council awaits the outcome of this investigation. At this stage, it is inadvisable for any elected member or council officer to speculate on the outcome of the financial investigations as this could prejudice the Council's position regarding any remedial actions it may wish to take in the future.

**Supplementary question and answer**

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member reminded the questioner that Homes in Havering had not been imposed on tenants but had come into being following an overwhelming vote in favour of it by the tenants themselves.

16 **Funds invested in Icelandic Banks – investment decisions****To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

Following Councillor Roger Ramsey's remarks, is it true it was not his decision, nor was he consulted about the millions of pounds being invested, or some say gambled, into the Icelandic Banks – yes or no?

ANSWER

I was not involved in agreeing the specific transactions which placed investments with the Icelandic banks.

Investment transactions are taken on a daily basis by Officers using the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy which was agreed by all Members.

I, as Lead Member, monitor and review performance and the portfolio spread on a quarterly basis.

The strategy and more information on procedures was provided to the Member at the Group Leader briefing meeting last month.

**Supplementary question and answer**

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member reminded the questioner that a large number of public, charitable and other bodies – including the regulator, the Audit Commission – had invested substantial funds in the banks in question and had been caught unawares by their collapse. It would not be practicable to convert the investments into bullion and deposit them in a vault.



17 **Enforcement action – 29 Lessington Avenue****To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee (Councillor Roger Evans)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

Can the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee advise in full the latest position with regard to the enforcement action relating to 29 Lessington Avenue?

ANSWER

An appeal against the Enforcement Notice served by the Council in relation to the use of the property as a place of worship was the subject of a Public Inquiry which took place on 10 September and 7 November. At the public inquiry the appellant and several witnesses testified that the use had been continuing for over 10 years and therefore, in accordance with planning legislation, was immune from enforcement action.

The Planning Inspector considered that, as the Council had no first hand evidence of the use, on the balance of probabilities, the property had been used as a place of worship since 1996/97, but limited to one hour on Fridays and one hour a day during Ramadan, Eid and Haj. The appeal decision was that the Enforcement Notice be quashed.

Therefore, provided there is no increase in the hours that the property is used, there is no further action in relation to the use of the property as a place of worship. There is therefore no enforcement investigation currently being undertaken in relation to the property.

**Supplementary question and answer**

In response to enquiry, the Chairman confirmed that he did not consider the taking of enforcement action in this case as having been a matter for regret.

18 **Safer Neighbourhood Teams - continuity****To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Standards & Electoral Services (Councillor Peter Gardner)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

Will the Cabinet Member seek assurance from the Borough Police Commander that Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be posted to our wards for longer periods of time to enable them to get to know our residents more and to restore confidence in the "local bobby on the beat"?

ANSWER

Havering Police follow the Metropolitan Police corporate policy on tenure of SNTs. A time frame of two years is recommended as a tenure period. At Havering a policy of three years has been adopted and Safer Neighbourhood Teams are officially notified of this. Clearly there is a balance between developing relationships and staying too long.

Supplementary question and answer

In response to enquiry, the Cabinet Member agreed to discuss with the Borough Commander what measures could be taken to address the concerns of residents of Rainham & Wennington Ward at what they perceived as an inadequate response to emergency service calls, and advise the questioner of the outcome.

**19 Rainham Village – reinstatement of public conveniences**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Coral Jeffery:

Will this council reinstate public convenience facilities in Rainham Village?

**ANSWER**

There are no plans to reinstate any public convenience facilities within the borough at present.

**As a result of the expiration of the time allowed for Questions, the remaining Questions were dealt with by written answer.**

**20 Maylands Car Wash**

**To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee (Councillor Roger Evans)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

Would the Chairman confirm what enforcement measures are being implemented in respect of the Maylands Car Wash on the A12?

**ANSWER**

There is a long running breach of planning control at this site where an Enforcement Notice has been served that prevents a car wash being operated. Staff have been trying to identify the owner and/or operator of the site to prosecute but have so far not been successful as land registry information is incorrect and those on the site refuse to answer any questions when visits are undertaken. Staff will be bringing a report to Regulatory Services Committee early in 2009 suggesting alternative ways of achieving closure of the site.

**Note:** Questions 21-23 were originally indicated for reply by the Cabinet Member for Social Care and Learning, but it was subsequently agreed that they would be dealt with by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection and Regeneration

**21 London City Airport: environmental impact of increased flights – consultation with Members**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection and Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

What steps were taken, if any, to inform and/or consult with members of the Council about the planning application to the London Borough of Newham to increase flights from London City Airport by 50% in view of the significant and adverse environmental on many residents of the London Borough of Havering?

ANSWER

Members of the Council were not consulted on the planning application for the expansion of London City Airport for the reasons set out in response to Question 22.

**22 London City Airport: environmental impact of increased flights – representations to Newham Council**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection and Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

Why did the Administration fail to make representations to the London Borough of Newham during the planning application process to increase the number of flights to and from London City Airport by 50%?

ANSWER

The Council previously supported, in principle, the airport operator's 'Masterplan' for proposed future growth of London City Airport activities (published in 2006). This was on the basis that such growth should have a positive economic impact in terms of attracting business and visitors to the Thames Gateway area including Havering. The Council's response indicated, however, that it would need to be satisfied that expansion would not cause significant adverse environmental impacts.

The latest planning application was submitted in the context of the 2003 Air Transport White Paper which recognised the growth potential of London City Airport. So far as the Council is aware, there are no unacceptable environmental impacts in the East London area generally or over the borough itself from current flight path arrangements for London City flights. Given the Council's previous "in principle" support for London City Airport expansion, the support in the White Paper, and the lack of evidence that this would cause unacceptable environmental impacts for Havering, an objection to the planning application recently approved by the London Borough of Newham would not have been justified.

23 **London City Airport: environmental impact of increased flights – representations to NATS**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection and Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

What representations has the Administration made to N.A.T.S. in respect of the change of two flight paths from and to London City Airport which will have will have adverse environmental impacts on residents in Havering and in Hornchurch particularly and will it join the Member of Parliament for Hornchurch in making such representations.

ANSWER

This question relates to a consultation exercise conducted in spring - summer 2008 by the National Air Traffic Services organisation (NATS) to examine the scope for changes to the flight-path arrangements for a wide area of the south east (mainly north of the Thames but also much of the Home Counties) serving the major London airports as well as almost sixty small airfields. It is one of the most complex areas of airspace in the world.

Proposed changes advocated by NATS were designed to reduce delay whilst maintaining safety and improving environmental performance.

The potential implications across Havering should the proposed NATS flight path changes be introduced present a complex picture. They are influenced by a wide range of factors including type of aircraft being used and wind direction. In summary, some parts of the borough would experience less over flying and some would encounter more over flying by arriving and departing aircraft. Against that background, the Council did not make any representations to NATS regarding the revised flight path arrangements proposed in their consultation.

NATS are now understood to be considering both the consultation responses and the proposals themselves. We have been advised recently that they may result in a review of the proposals as well as further consultation. They will then be submitted to the Civil Aviation Authority for consideration.

The Council is carefully keeping under review issues around the NATS work and will bear in mind the implications for Hornchurch and the rest of the Borough of any emerging amendments to NATS' flight path proposals and consider the need for any representations accordingly.

24 **Charges to tenants for CCTV and other services**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public protection and Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

Will the Lead Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration make a statement about the representations he has received regarding the imposition of additional charges for tenants for CCTV and other services and what steps he intends to take to review the decision to impose such charges?

**ANSWER**

Of the Council's 12,500 tenants and leaseholders, only 93 (0.7%) have specifically complained about the CCTV charge, with another 422 (3.3%) making enquiries about it.

The CCTV service is proving very effective, yet Havering tenants benefit from the lowest combined rent and service charge in London at £69 per week, some £17 lower than the average, and £39 a week lower than the highest average rents in the capital.

As part of the Council's annual budget-setting process, both rents and service charges are reviewed in detail, including considering feedback from tenants. The 2009/10 rent and service charge setting process will be no different with all opportunities for minimising service charges being thoroughly investigated.





## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, 14 JANUARY 2009

# 7

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Committee considered a number of suggested amendments to the Constitution.

1 Appointment of a Member Champion for Standards

The Committee noted that the Strategy Advisor, Governance and Accountability from the Audit Commission, had recommended that a Standards Champion be appointed by Councils to drive forward the ethical agenda and raise standards of conduct. The Audit Commission's Ethical Governance Survey of the Council and its Corporate Governance action plan had contained a number of criteria regarding the improvement of standards. The Committee concurred that the Council should be invited to approve the appointment of a Member Champion for Standards, who would need to be a Member of the Standards Committee.

The Committee agreed that such an appointment should be made at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009.

2 Annual Report of the Standards Committee

Within the Audit Commission's Governance Action Plan for the Council was making provision for the reporting of the work of the Committee to Council annually. The Constitution currently provided for the Council to receive reports at the first ordinary meeting in the Municipal Year (which is usually the July meeting), from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Audit and Pension Commissions and the Member Champions. It was now recommended that, in order to meet the requirements of the Governance Action Plan, a report also be received by Council on the work of the Standards Committee, which could be presented by the Member Champion as the Chairman of the Committee is by statute an Independent Member.

3 Appointment of a Member Champion of the Voluntary Sector Compact

It was proposed that a Member Champion be appointed for the Voluntary Sector Compact, whose role it would be to take forward the Local Compact agreement between the Council, local public bodies and the local voluntary and community sector. The Local Compact adopted relevant national Compact principles and provided a framework for working together at local level to improve quality of life for individuals and communities. All top tier local authorities would have a Local Compact for their area. The Champion will be responsible for making the Compact known, understood and used within the

Council and through local partnerships, forums and events. Champions were key in taking the Compact forward.

The Committee agreed that such an appointment should be made at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009.

4 **Delegation of powers to clean private courtyards and passages to Head of StreetCare**

The Environmental Health Service was authorised under the Constitution to exercise powers under Section 78 of the Public Health Act 1936 – power to clean private courtyards and passages. A recent case had highlighted the need for this power also to be delegated to the Head of StreetCare and the Committee was asked to approve this. Section 78 enabled a local authority to clean private courtyards and passageways and to recover the cost from the occupiers of the building which fronts or abuts the court or yard in relevant proportions.

The Committee accordingly **agreed** to **RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL** that:

- 1 With effect from the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, a Champion for Standards be appointed who should be a member of the Standards Committee.
- 2 An Annual Report on the work of the Standards Committee be presented by the Champion to Council.
- 3 With effect from the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, a Champion for the Voluntary Sector Compact be appointed.
- 4 The Head of StreetCare be authorised to enforce Section 78 of the Public Health Act 1936.





COUNCIL, 4 FEBRUARY 2009

8

QUESTIONS

1 **Parking bays for disabled people - barriers**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebutt)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

Could the Cabinet member advise what costs were incurred for the installation and subsequent removal of the blue lowerable disabled barriers on a number of disabled parking bays throughout the borough?

2 **Tenants' choice of housing management provider**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration  
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

At the last Full Council meeting, Cabinet member for Housing, Councillor Michael Armstrong, generously shared the credit for introducing the ALMO with Havering tenants. He said "80% of tenants responding to a Council questionnaire had supported the ALMO".

Can he confirm that this questionnaire only offered a choice between the ALMO and a Housing Association and that an earlier questionnaire which included the status quo as an option, had been rejected because the status quo was the most popular choice?

**3 Council funds - investment decisions**

**To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce**  
**(Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

Councillor Roger Ramsey, Cabinet member for Finance, initially said that he was not responsible for any losses in the Icelandic banks. This was because 1) it was not his decision 2) he was not consulted about the decision 3) it would be unprofessional for him to have any say in how Council funds are 'invested'. Except at the last Full Council meeting he said ALL councillors (which presumably includes him) shared responsibility for any losses incurred.

Please can Councillor Ramsey clarify whether he accepts any responsibility for the decision to 'invest' Council-taxpayers money in the Icelandic banks?

**4 Voting at meetings of the Regulatory Services Committee**

**To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee**  
**(Councillor Roger Evans)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

At the last Full Council meeting, Councillor Roger Evans, Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee, said councillors should not involve themselves in issues outside their own wards!

If sincere, will he now refuse to vote on any planning applications, outside Elm Park?

**5 Gaynes Road Car Park – parking and penalty charges**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services**  
**(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Linda Van Den Hende:

Would the Cabinet Member please set out the conditions and arrangements for car park charges at Gaynes Road, Upminster (Aldi's) car park and how the current dual-system of penalty charges is implemented and monitored?

**6 Receipts from new service charges**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration  
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

Will the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration disclose the anticipated receipts of new service charges from Tenants for the year 2008/09 and 2009/2010 for the following:-

- Bulk Refuse Service
- Neighbourhood Warden Service
- Extra Cleaning Services
- Mobile and Fixed CCTV Service

**7 Briar Road Estate – Housing Options –Timetable**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration  
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

Will either the Deputy Leader of the Council or the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection and Regeneration make a statement about the timetable for the consultation with residents of the Briar Road Estate about future housing options including possible regeneration detailing in his statement amongst other things the closing date for the initial consultation and the anticipated date that the Cabinet will make a decision as to what option to pursue?

**8 Forthcoming Inspection of Homes in Havering Housing Services**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration  
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

When does the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration anticipate that the next inspection by the Audit Commission will take place in Havering to determine the star rating of the Council's Housing Services?

9 **Gallows Corner**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

What representations have the Council made to the Highways Agency and Transport for London about the continuing disruption caused by the delay in completing the works to the Gallows Corner Fly-Over which are causing great inconvenience to residents throughout the Borough and in particular to those living in Harold Hill.

10 **Harold Hill Ambitions – Employment of Consultants**

**To the Deputy Leader of the Council  
(Councillor Steven Kelly)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

Will the Deputy Leader of the Council disclose the total cost to date of employing consultants in connection with the Harold Hill Ambitions Project.

11 **Children’s Trust Partners**

**To the Cabinet Member for Education & Children’s Services  
(Councillor Geoffrey Starns)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

What steps has the Cabinet Member for Education and Children’s Services taken to make the Children’s Trust Partners aware of their shared responsibility for improving outcomes for all children and narrowing the outcomes gap as well as the need to gather information to review and improve their own contributions.

12 **Children’s Services – Outcomes**

**To the Cabinet Member for Education & Children’s Services  
(Councillor Geoffrey Starns)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

What steps has the Cabinet Member for Education and Children’s Services taken to ensure that robust governance and monitoring frameworks are in place within the Council and in Local Partnerships to ensure better outcomes of children’s services?

13 **Accuracy of Information**

**To the Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services**  
**(Councillor Geoffrey Starns)**

By Councillor Keith Darvill:

What steps has the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services taken to ensure the accuracy of information on the well being of individual children in local authority care?

14 **Charges – VAT reduction**

**To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce**  
**(Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Ray Morgon

With VAT reduced from 17.5% to 15% as from 1 December 2008, would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- (a) if this has been passed on to customers in full (eg off street car parking)?
- (b) if not, how much extra income will be collected by the Council in 2008/09 and projected for 2009/10 due to the reduction?

15 **Hornchurch Car Parks – supplementary information**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services**  
**(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Barbara Matthews:

Further to Questions 2 and 3 at the Council Meeting of 10 December 2008 and responding to supplementaries on both these questions relating to Hornchurch Car Parks, you agreed to provide Members with similar data and information on all car parks. When will this information be forthcoming please?

16 **Footway maintenance**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services**  
**(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

Would the Cabinet Member provide expenditure details of footway maintenance, per ward, in each of the last two financial years and estimated spend for the year ending 31st March 2009?

17 **Carriageway maintenance**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

Would the Cabinet Member provide expenditure details of carriageway maintenance, per ward, in each of the last two financial years and estimated spend for the year ending 31st March 2009?

18 **Youth Champion – activities**

**To the Member Champion for Youth  
(Councillor Gary Adams)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

Following on from the Youth Champions request for questions at the last Council meeting, how many youth events has the Youth Champion attended in the last 6 months?

19 **Youth Champion – engagement with Youth Parliament**

**To the Member Champion for Youth  
(Councillor Gary Adams)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

What engagement has the Youth Champion undertaken with Havering's Youth Parliament?

20 **External consultants**

**To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce  
(Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker:

Would the Cabinet Member state the level of expenditure on external consultants in each of the last two financial years and estimated spend for the year ending 31st March 2009?

21 **CCTV Car**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

Would the Cabinet Member provide figures for:

- (a) Total number of PCN's issued by the CCTV parking enforcement vehicle for 2007/08 and how many appeals set against that figure?
- (b) How many PCN's has the CCTV car issued to date in 2008/09?

22 **Living in Havering - cost**

**To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services  
(Councillor Eric Munday)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

Would the Cabinet Member provide a detailed breakdown of the 2008/09 total gross annual cost of the fortnightly "Living" Newspaper?

23 **Living in Havering - income**

**To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services  
(Councillor Eric Munday)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett:

Would the Cabinet Member state the total advertising and other income received to date and projected to the end of the financial year for 2008/09 in respect of the fortnightly "Living" newspaper?

24 **Speed cameras**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Barbara Matthews:

Would the Cabinet Member confirm how many speed cameras are located in the borough?

25 **Local Democracy Week – community engagement at the Brewery**

**To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services**  
**(Councillor Eric Munday)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

Would the Cabinet Member provide this Council with the public feedback responses sourced at the community engagement event, held at the Brewery during Local Democracy Week?

26 **Local Democracy Week – youth activities**

**To the Member Champion for Youth**  
**(Councillor Gary Adams)**

By Councillor Gillian Ford:

Would the Youth Champion advise this Council what youth involvement activities were organised during Local Democracy Week and what youth engagement activities has the Youth Champion got planned for the remainder of this municipal year?

27 **Use of Ice Rink grounds for car parking by Queen’s Hospital visitors**

**To the Cabinet Member for Culture & Communities**  
**(Councillor Andrew Curtin)**

By Councillor Ray Morgon:

Given that the grounds of the Ice Rink are regularly used to provide parking for the Queen's Hospital, would the Cabinet Member confirm who receives the £4.50 charge per car per day?

28 **Trees maintenance**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services**  
**(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

What is the total tree maintenance budget for StreetCare in 2008/09?

(a) How much of this sum is set aside for insurance claims?

(b) How much has the Council paid out for tree related claims (broken down in categories) in the following years?

2006/2007

2007/2008

2008/2009 to date



29 **River Rom**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

How many inspections have been carried out on the River Rom since May 2006, please supply the dates?

30 **Housing CCTV**

**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services  
(Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Andy Mann:

In respect of the survey obtaining views on the Housing CCTV scheme, would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- (a) the number of questionnaires sent out
- (b) the number returned
- (c) the breakdown of responses by category

31 **Hilldene Shops – trading from the footway**

**To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Standards & Electoral Services (Councillor Roger Ramsey)**

By Councillor Mark Logan:

Why has the shopkeeper in Hilldene Avenue, whose address I have asked officers to provide direct to you, been allowed apparently to trade illegally from the pavement area, to the front of his shop for several years?

32 **High-rise flats in Romford – parking provision**

**To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee  
(Councillor Roger Evans)**

By Councillor Mark Logan:

Why did the Regulatory Services Committee deem it necessary to allow the building of a high-rise block of flats in Romford, with no provision for parking facilities? (Charrington Court).

**Council, 10 December 2008**